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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Ashar AZIZ, et al.

Group Art Unit No.: NYA

Examiner: NYA

Serial No.: 09/911,925

Filed on: July 23, 2001

For: APPROACH FOR DETERMINING AN AMOUNT
TO BILL A CUSTOMER FOR THE USE OF
RESOURCES

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Technology Center 2100

#2/Patent A
JL/Haynor
10/10PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTCommissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the application referenced above, please amend the application referenced above as indicated hereinafter. In accordance with revised 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, a marked up version of the replacement section is provided on separate pages attached to this amendment.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please delete and replace the Related Application section with the following:

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part application of and claims priority to U.S. Patent Application Number 09/502,170 (Attorney Docket No. 55218-0012) entitled "Extensible Computing System," filed on February 11, 2000, by Ashar Aziz, Tom Markson and Martin